[24th July 1953

Alleged seizure of badges and licences of cart-drivers by the police.

* 984 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the police constables seize the metal badges and licences of jutka-drivers, rickshaw-pullers and cart-drivers wherever they are caught by them committing any offence and also retain them indefinitely without filing any complaint before a magistrate; and if so, whether they are authorized or instructed to do so; and

(*b*) whether the Government are aware of the abuses that the practice of seizing badges and licences referred to in (*a*) is leading to, and the hardships caused thereby; and if so, what steps the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" (*a*) & (*b*) Police constables do not seize the metal badges and licences of jutka drivers, rickshaw-pullers and cart drivers wherever they are caught by them committing any offence. Badges are seized only under the following circumstances:—

(i) The badges and licences issued during the official year are current only up to 31st March. In case the licensees fail to surrender them on their expiry, the time-expired badges are seized and the parties are charged.

(ii) Where a licensed puller or driver lends his badge to an unlicensed person and if an unlicensed person is found wearing a badge, then the badges are also seized from such unlicensed persons and both the licensed and unlicensed persons are charged and the badges restored to the person to whom it was issued, immediately after the disposal of the case."

Loans for cyclone relief in Tanjore.

* 985 *Q.*—SRI N. SIVARAJ: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many applications for loans were received from the cyclone-affected peasants of Tanjore district;

(*b*) how many were sanctioned;

(*c*) what are the maximum and minimum amounts sanctioned; and

(*d*) how many applications of Government servants were sanctioned?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—" (*a*) The total number of loan applications received from the cyclone-affected peasants in the Tanjore district up to 30th April 1953, is 12,675.

" (*b*) The number sanctioned is 1,047.